

# Congressman Elijah E. Cummings

October 10, 2003

7th Congressional District of Maryland  
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## *A message from Congressman Elijah E. Cummings*



*It is both a privilege and honor to represent you in the United States Congress. While serving you, I will continue outreach efforts to further inform you of legislative action in Congress. I welcome your advice. Government "by the people" is the cornerstone of my legislative philosophy.*

*Elijah E. Cummings  
Member of Congress*

**On the Internet:**  
<http://www.house.gov/cummings>

## **Congressman Cummings' Dawson Bill Passes House Floor**

Fifteen days before the one-year anniversary of a tragic Baltimore arson-murder that killed seven members of the Dawson family, the U.S. House of Representatives passed legislation originally introduced by Congressman Elijah Cummings that will provide additional federal funding to better protect neighborhood anti-drug activists from retaliation by drug dealers.

On September 30, in a bipartisan vote, the House passed **H.R. 2086: "The Reauthorization of the Office of National Drug Control Policy,"** which incorporates language from **H.R.1599: "The Dawson Family Community Protection Act of 2003,"** sponsored by Congressman Cummings and co-sponsored by his Republican colleague, Congressman Mark Souder (R-Indiana).

The provision authorizes additional federal funding for community protection measures, such as anonymous anti-drug hotlines, for Americans who help law enforcement crack down on drug trafficking.

Congressman Cummings introduced the Dawson bill in recognition of the courage of individuals across the nation who stand up to violent drug dealers. The bill is named after the Angela and Carnell Dawson family, who were tragically killed in Baltimore last October, for their anti-drug activism.

In the early morning hours of October 16, 2002, the home of Carnell and Angela was firebombed. The attack was in apparent retaliation for Mrs. Dawson's repeated complaints to the police about persistent drug distribution activity in her East Baltimore City neighborhood.

The resulting fire claimed the lives of Mr. Dawson, Mrs. Dawson and their five young children, ages 9 to 14.

"The Dawson family died as heroes," Congressman Cummings said. "The nation must honor their sacrifice and provide protection to neighborhood activists who take it upon themselves to make our communities safer. As we observe the first anniversary of the horrifying tragedy, we must honor their memory by protecting other families like them."

The ONDCP Reauthorization bill includes provisions from the Dawson bill that would direct the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy to provide at least \$1 million annually to the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA) program aimed at providing protection to communities that suffer from severe levels of drug-related crime. The \$1 million authorization is a baseline that Congressman Cummings hopes to increase during the appropriations process.

This federal funding would be used to increase neighborhood safety and encourage the voluntary sharing of information about drug trafficking activities.

The bill also recognizes that the cooperation of ordinary citizens like Angela Dawson is vital in disrupting illegal drug trafficking organizations.

"I thank my colleagues for their support of this bill and for honoring the heroic efforts of the Dawson family and other families in neighborhoods across the nation. Despite the fear of retaliation from drug dealers, these heroes are aiding the law enforcement officials fighting drug trafficking in their neighborhoods," Congressman Cummings declared. "Action on this bill is a demonstration of how Democrats and Republicans can truly serve the American people by working in a bipartisan manner."

## **Congressman Cummings Calls for 2003 Service Academy Nominations**

Congressman Cummings invites high school students interested in attending the United States Military, Naval, Air Force, or Merchant Marine Academies to submit their applications for nominations. Students between the ages of 17 and 23 residing in the 7<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, including students from Howard County, Baltimore County and Baltimore City, are encouraged to apply.

Every year, Members of Congress are given the privilege of selecting the best and brightest students from their districts to attend the United States Service Academies. To get into a military academy, students first must get a nomination. Nomination sources include the U.S. Vice President, U.S. Senators representing the applicant's state, or the applicant's U.S. Representative.

Congressman Cummings said. "A military academy education opens doors to a promising future, so I encourage all students who are interested to apply."

In order to get nominated, students need to send in a letter requesting nomination, a high school transcript, a copy of their official SAT or ACT scores, two letters of recommendation, and a two page essay explaining why they wish to attend a United States Service Academy. Upon submission of these items, students will be notified if they qualify to be interviewed by the Congressman Cummings Service Academy Board. Once the interviews are concluded, Congressman Cummings nominates those students he determines to be the best qualified. The individual Academies make the final determination of which students are granted admission.

For more information on the nomination process, contact Congressman Cummings' Special Assistant, Frank Amtmann at (410) 719-8777 or visit [www.house.gov/cummings](http://www.house.gov/cummings).

## **Congressman Cummings Applauds Korean American Community for New Support Network**

On Sunday, October 5, Congressman Cummings congratulated Members of the Korean American Community Association of Howard County (KACAH) for establishing "Care-line," a phone support system to help recent immigrants from South Korea to adjust to the United States.

The Care-line provides trained psychologists, marriage counselors, attorneys and social workers who are available to answer callers' questions in their native language.

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"Your Association's new "Care Line" will further our shared, community-building mission, and it deserves our support," Congressman Cummings told the crowd of 700. "Our nation is in a constant state of re-creation. Achieving unity from our diversity has always been the key to our strength and our prosperity."

He added, "Howard County is a national leader in our successful integration of people from all cultures and backgrounds. We justifiably can take pride in this fact."

"Successful community building does not happen by accident. People like the leaders and volunteers of the Korean American Community Association are achieving this success by their commitment and work every day," Congressman Cummings said.

Congressman Cummings especially recognized Association President Sue Song, Executive Director Jay Yu and Member Chan Su Chong.

For more information on the care-line, contact Sue Song at 410-829-5148.

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## **Congressman Cummings to Host Forum for Howard County Students and School Board**

Congressman Cummings will host a community forum on Monday, October 27, 2003, 7 p.m., at Wilde Lake High School in Columbia, Maryland. The purpose of the forum is to provide an open dialogue between students of the Howard County Public School System and the Administration and School Board. During the forum several students will present their concerns to a panel consisting of Howard County School officials, which will address each issue that is brought forward.

"I believe that it is important for policy makers to hear from the people who are directly affected by their policies," Congressman Cummings noted. "This forum will bring together students and Howard County School officials for a productive discussion about the issues important to the education of our young people."

Students or parents who wish to attend the forum may contact Julie Dreisch at (410) 685-9199 for more information.

## **Save the Date!**

**10/20/03**  
10 - 11 a.m.

Prescription Drug Town Hall  
Zion Towers, 1100 Pennsylvania Ave.,  
Baltimore, MD

**10/27/03**  
7 p.m.

Howard County Students School Forum;  
Wilde Lake High School,  
Columbia, Maryland.

**11/3/03**

"How to Pay for College" Fair,  
Baltimore City  
Location and time TBA

**11/10/03**  
5 - 7:30 p.m.

"How to Pay for College" Fair,  
Wilde Lake High School,  
Columbia, Maryland;

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## **Congressman Cummings Announces 7<sup>th</sup> District Grants and Contracts**

Congressman Cummings announced the following federal grants and contract awards that would benefit the residents of Maryland's Seventh Congressional District. He acknowledged his colleagues, Senators Paul S. Sarbanes, Barbara A. Mikulski and Congressmen Benjamin L. Cardin and C.A. "Dutch" Ruppersberger for their efforts in helping secure these grants. The grants include:

**U.S. Air Force Contracts:** Johns Hopkins University in Laurel, MD, has been awarded a grant with a ceiling of \$49,405,000 to research and develop the Robust Scramjet for the U.S. Air Force over a 5 year period. The U.S. Air Force will also provide the Whiting-Turner Contracting Company in Baltimore, MD, a \$14,195,000 firm-fixed price contract for the construction of the Mitscher Hall Expansion/Ethics Center at the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis.

**Homeland Security Grant:** The Maryland Transit Administration will receive grant funding in the amount of \$1,225,952 for the purchase of emergency responder equipment. The amount will be provided by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

**Energy Contract:** The U.S. Department of Energy will award a contract totaling \$16,208,253 to Energetics, Inc., located in Columbia, MD. As part of the contract, the company will provide support to the Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy in the areas of Superconductivity Systems, Industrial Power Generation, and other energy programs.

**Anti-narcotics Grant:** The White House Office of Drug Control Policy will provide the Washington/Baltimore High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Area (HIDTA) with a \$1.5 million grant to target and track down high level drug trafficking organizations

**Forensics Science Grant:** The Baltimore County Police Department will receive a \$236,000 discretionary grant under the *Paul Coverdell National Forensics Science Improvement Act*. The program funds crime labs and medical examiner's offices based on population and crime statistics. The U.S. Department of Justice will provide the grant.

**Juvenile Justice Grant:** The U.S. Department of Justice will award the Maryland Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention with a \$1,086,688 grant to support state and local delinquency prevention and intervention programs. The Justice Department will also award a \$216,000 grant to the Phi Alpha Delta Public Service Center in Baltimore to produce Law-Related Education (LRE) programs for at-risk youth.

**Prostate Cancer Grant:** The Johns Hopkins University will receive a \$1,888,124 grant from the National Cancer Institute to provide research for prostate cancer.

**School Security Grant:** The Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program under the U.S. Department of Justice will award Baltimore City with a \$405,000 grant for securing schools with metal detectors, locks, lighting, and other equipment to deter crime on school campuses. The grant will be administered through the Secure Our Schools program.

**Advanced Placement Grant:** The U.S. Department of Education will award the Maryland State Department of Education a \$584,330 grant during the 2003-04 school year to provide the state's low-income children with access to Advanced Placement (AP) courses. AP courses allow students to take college courses in high school and receive college credit after passing an AP exam.

**Small Learning Community Grant Program:** Baltimore City Public Schools will receive a \$1,941,816 grant from the U.S. Department of Education to fund the Smaller Learning Community Program. The program helps provide small, safe, and successful learning environments in large public high schools.

**Head Start/HBCU Partnership Grants:** Coppin State College will receive a grant of \$148,000 to partner with Head Start programs. Through the program, Coppin's resources will be used to enhance several Head Start centers. The grant will be provided by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.



Following his testimony before the House Resources Committee on Sept. 30, 2003, Congressman Cummings, second from right, poses with Board Members of Baltimore's National Great Blacks in Wax Museum and two wax figures from the Museum. The Committee considered Congressman Cummings' bill, H.R. 2424, which would authorize the federal funding for the museum. The bill, which already passed the U.S. Senate unanimously under leadership of Maryland's U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski, is also expected to clear the House. If passed, the museum will be eligible to receive up to \$15 million in federal funds for a major expansion project. (From L to R: Museum Board Member Bernard Jennings; Wax figure of Dr. Benjamin Hooks; Dr. Joanne M. Martin, the President and CEO the Museum; Wax figure of the late Mary Eliza Mahoney; Congressman Cummings and Dr. Marie Washington, Museum Board Member.

## **Congressman Cummings Increases Howard County Outreach at Neighborhood Grocery Stores**

In an ongoing effort to reach out to his constituents in Howard County, Congressman Cummings will visit several neighborhoods in October to discuss important issues affecting Howard County residents. These "Neighborhood Office Hours" represent another illustration of Congressman Cummings' commitment to connecting with the people of his district and meeting their various needs.

The next Neighborhood Office Hour is as follows:

**October 18, 2003**

Village of Wilde Lake Giant  
10440 Twin Rivers Road, Columbia, MD  
11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

For more information regarding the Outreach Hours, please contact Ms. Julie Dreisch at (410) 685-9199.

During his neighborhood office hours at the Dorsey Search Giant grocery store in Howard County, Congressman Cummings meets with the Marcus family of Ellicott City. (From left to right: Mr. Marcus, Mitchell, Congressman Cummings, Matthew, and Mrs. Marcus.)



### **Howard County Outreach Centers**

#### **First Monday of the Month:**

Glenwood Library, 2350 Route 97  
Cooksville, MD 21723

**Hours: 4:00PM - 6:00PM or by appointment**

#### **Second Monday of the Month:**

Howard County Central Library  
10375 Little Patuxent Pkwy.  
Columbia, MD 21044

**Hours: 4:00PM - 6:00PM or by appointment**

#### **Second Wednesday of the Month:**

Savage Library, 9525 Durness Lane  
Laurel, MD 20723

**Hours: 4:00PM - 6:00PM or by appointment**

#### **Third Monday of the Month:**

Florence Bain Senior Center  
5470 Ruth Keeton Way  
Columbia, MD 21044

**Hours: 9:00AM - 11 AM or by appointment**

#### **Fourth Monday of the Month:**

Miller Branch Library, 9421 Frederick Road  
Ellicott City, MD 21042

### **Congressman Cummings' District Offices**

**1010 Park Avenue, Suite 105  
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(410) 685-9199  
(410) 685-9399 fax

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